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Chief, SIC/R  
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10 August 1956

(Indefinite)

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CIA, (S - 98736, 23 July 1956, ID-C-376, "Construction Costs in Communist China."

1. It is desirable that we obtain the price of cement of various grades.
2. What are the approximate number employed in the permanent construction industry? Give ratio of temporary against permanent employees; and ratio of women against men workers in both categories. How many hours are there to a normal work shift? Finally, what percentage of the construction labor force is skilled?
3. Will the new City Construction Ministry take over all the house-building functions of the Ministry of Construction and other ministries? What are the jurisdictional limits of these two ministries, i.e., What can and does one do to the exclusion of the other?
4. What percentage of total housing construction does private construction represent? What are the total amounts of State and local long-term loans for private housing construction in 1953-1956?
5. The Chinese Communists have announced the following figures as planning costs (in million yuan):
  - a. Textile Mill of 20,000-30,000 spindles ..... 5
  - b. 100,000 spindles ..... 60-67
  - c. Vehicle Plant: annual capacity 30,000 large motor vehicles ..... 600
  - d. Tractor Plant: annual capacity 30,000
    - large tractors ..... 600
    - 15,000 large tractors ..... 400
  - e. One kilometer of railroad ..... 3-7
  - f. Warehouse of 5,000 square meters ..... 4
  - g. Oil Refinery: capacity 1 million tons a year ... 300
  - h. Cement Plant: 600,000 tons yearly ..... 70
  - i. Iron and Steel Combine: 1.5 million tons yearly ..... 1800-2000

Could we have sources (a) evaluate these figures and comment on their validity?

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